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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/920,133	08/01/2001	Kazunobu Kubota	7217/65186	5686

7590 06/20/2003

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP  
1185 Avenue of the Americas  
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[REDACTED] EXAMINER

HARVEY, MINSUN OH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2644	

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No. <b>09/920,133</b>	Applicant(s) <b>KUBOTA</b>
Examiner <b>MINSUN HARVEY</b>	Art Unit <b>2644</b>

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_.

2a)  This action is **FINAL**. 2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

4)  Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a)  approved b)  disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

a)  The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### Attachment(s)

1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). A 6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1 to 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(anticipated) as being anticipated by Inanaga.

Inanaga discloses an apparatus for processing an audio signal comprising: means for synthesizing a plurality of M sound source signals (multichannel analog stereophonic signal source 2 of fig. 1) to provide N sound source signals (output of 21 and 22), the number N being smaller than the number M of the sound source signals, based on at least one of position information, movement information and localization information of the M sound source signals (38, 64, 31, 32, 33 and 44); means for generating synthesized information by synthesizing information corresponding to the synthesized N sound source signals from the information of the M sound source signals (5, 8, 10 and 12; and signal processing means for localizing in sound image the synthesized N sound source signals based on the synthesized information from the means for generating (5, 7, 9, 11, 15 and 16); the localizing in sound image in the signal processing means is virtual sound image localization for obtaining two channel reproduced signals supplied to a pair of acoustic transducers to localize a sound image at an arbitrary position around a listener (col. 16, lines 26 to 40); at least one information of position

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information, movement information and localization information correspond to the N synthesized sound source is changed by a change instruction which is supplied by a user's operation (a user's head is detected by 65 for a movement).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to **Minsun Oh Harvey** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-6741**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Bill Isen**, can be reached at **(703) 305-4386**.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

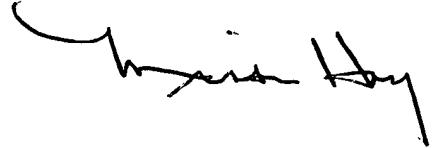
**Or faxed to:**

**(703) 872-9314 (for Technology Center 2600 only)**

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

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Any inquiry of general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Technology Center 2600 Customer Service Office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

  
**MINSUN OH HARVEY**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**